

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for determining if an individual has, or can develop, a disorder or condition, comprising the steps of:

5 obtaining a stool sample from the individual;
analyzing the stool sample to determine the presence of a pathogen; and
correlating the presence of a pathogen with a disorder or lack thereof.

10 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of analyzing comprises performing a stool immunoassay to determine the presence of an antigen associated with a pathogen.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the disorder comprises a PDD (pervasive development disorder).

15 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the disorder comprises a dysautonomic disorder.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the disorder comprises Parkinson's disease.

20 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the disorder comprises a neurological disorder.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the pathogen comprises *Helicobacter pylori*.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the pathogen comprises *Clostridium difficile*.

5

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the pathogen comprises *Cryptosporidium*.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the pathogen comprises *Giardia*.

10

11. The method of claim 1, wherein the pathogen comprises Rotavirus or Adenovirus.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein the pathogen comprises *Entamoeba histolytica*.

15

13. A biological marker for determining if an individual has, or can develop, a disorder or condition, the biological marker comprising a pathogen in a stool sample of the individual.

20

14. The biological marker of claim 13, wherein the presence of the pathogen in the stool sample is determined using stool immunoassay.

15. The biological marker of claim 13, wherein the pathogen comprises
Helicobacter pylori.

5 16. The biological marker of claim 13, wherein the pathogen comprises
Clostridium difficile.

10 17. The biological marker of claim 13, wherein the pathogen comprises
Cryptosporidium.

18. The biological marker of claim 13, wherein the pathogen comprises Giardia.

19. The biological marker of claim 13, wherein the pathogen comprises Rotavirus
or Adenovirus.

15

20. The biological marker of claim 13, wherein the pathogen comprises
Entamoeba histolytica.